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Annual Report  
of the  
Medical Officer of Health

For the Year, 1938



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# BOROUGH OF CROSBY

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**MAYOR:** Mr. Alderman HERBERT WILLIAMS, J.P.

**DEPUTY MAYOR:** Mr. Alderman J. MASON-GUTTRIDGE, Officier de la Légion d'honneur. Chevalier de l'ordre de la Couronne.

**TOWN CLERK:** FRANK D. FOULKES, Esq.

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## Health Committee at the end of 1938

*Chairman:*

Mr. Alderman H. Y. BRAMHAM.

THE MAYOR  
THE DEPUTY MAYOR } *Ex-Officio.*

Mr. Alderman BARNES.	Mr. Councillor GOODING.
Alderman Dr. L. HILL.	„ „ KUP.
Mr. Alderman JAMIESON.	„ „ MORRIS.
„ „ LOW.	Councillor Mrs. NORMAN-THOMAS.
„ „ STUDLEY.	„ Miss ROLLO.
„ Councillor ARNOTT.	Mr. Councillor SMITHSON.
„ „ COLLINS.	„ „ TITHERLEY.
„ „ COWLEY.	„ „ WENSLEY.
„ „ CUMMINS.	„ „ A. S. WILLIAMS.
Mr. Councillor W. R. WILLIAMS.	

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## Medical Services Sub-Committee

*Chairman:* Mr. Alderman H. Y. BRAMHAM.

THE MAYOR  
THE DEPUTY MAYOR } *Ex-Officio.*

Alderman Dr. L. HILL.

Mr. Councillor COLLINS.	Mr. Councillor SMITHSON.
„ „ CUMMINS.	„ „ A. S. WILLIAMS.
Mr. Councillor W. R. WILLIAMS.	

## Staff of the Public Health Department

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### *Medical Officer of Health:*

VINCENT J. GLOVER,  
M.D. L'pool, M.B., Ch.B. Vict., D.P.H., R.C.P.S.I.

### *Deputy Medical Officer of Health:*

A. J. W. CUNNINGHAM,\*  
M.A., M.D., B.Ch. Cantab., D.P.H. L'pool.

### *Assistant Medical Officer of Health:*

(Miss) MOIRA MURRAY,\*  
M.B., Ch.B. L'pool, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond.

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## Consultant Staff

### *Aurist and Light Therapeutician:*

J. CUSSONS HEPTON, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond.\*

### *Gynaecologist:*

SYDNEY B. HERD, M.D., F.C.O.G.\*

### *Dental Surgeons:*

J. F. COWELL, L.D.S., R.F.P.S. Glas.\*  
A. H. CLEAVER, L.D.S., R.C.S. Eng.\*

### *Chief Sanitary Inspector:*

†JOSEPH ALMOND, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

### *District Sanitary Inspectors:*

††A. E. JONES, M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I.  
††N. BENSON, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.  
†C. JOHNSON, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

### *Chief Health Visitor:*

Miss L. WILDE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

### *District Health Visitors:*

Miss M. C. GREENWOOD, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.  
Miss D. PARKINSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.  
Miss P. WROE, S.R.N., S.R.C.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

### *Clerical Staff:*

C. A. CROSS, Dipl.P.A. L'pool (*Chief Clerk*).  
F. C. WILKINSON. Miss M. CULLIMORE.  
J. HARROWER. Miss D. JONES.

\*Part-time.

†Certified Meat Inspector.

†Certified Smoke Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL,  
WATERLOO,

*June, 1939.*

THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN and COUNCILLORS  
OF THE BOROUGH OF CROSBY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting herewith my Annual Report relating to the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough of Crosby during the year 1938.

I have to acknowledge figures and information from the Borough Treasurer, the Borough Engineer, the County Medical Officer of Health, the Lancashire Constabulary, the Waterloo-with-Seaforth Ladies Health Society and others who have supplied valuable information for inclusion in this report.

A perusal of the statistics and information gathered from such diverse sources and embodied in my report affords an excellent indication of the spirit of goodwill and co-operation which exists between the Public Health Department and the many other agencies, official and voluntary, in the Borough, whose work directly or indirectly affects the health of the community and the individual.

During the past year many important new developments in the health services of the Borough have taken place; foremost amongst them are:—

1. Increased facilities at the Prince Street Clinic for the medical supervision of infants between the ages of 2 and 5 years by the introduction of a "Toddlers' Clinic."
2. Provision of dental treatment, and in approved cases, dentures, for nursing and expectant mothers.
3. The establishment of an emergency maternity service by arrangement with the Liverpool Maternity Hospital.
4. The decision of the Council to provide new and larger clinic premises in the northern portion of the Borough.
5. The decision of the Council to provide swimming baths for the Borough.

These new developments are fully in keeping with the present day tendency of public health services generally, i.e., in the direction of increased and better services and clinic facilities.



The "Toddlers' Clinic" has bridged the gap between babyhood and school age and assures continuity of attention from the time of birth until the school-leaving age is reached. The medical and nursing staff of the Public Health Department are also the staff of the School Medical Department thus assuring complete co-ordination of the services. The fact that the pre-school children, the school children and the mothers are all under the supervision of the same doctors and nurses facilitates continuity, confidence, and personal knowledge of the cases. These factors are most important, and I consider most necessary, for the success of the public health services.

The provision of dental treatment and dentures to necessitous nursing and expectant mothers is a most welcome extension to the dental services of the department and it is one for which there is considerable scope and opportunity. I do not believe that there can be any doubt as to the ill effects of dental diseases upon general health and I think it will be generally agreed that the ultimate effects of such diseases will be considerably accenuated when the sufferer is a nursing or expectant mother. It is generally accepted that dental diseases amongst expectant mothers are injurious not only to the health of the mother but also to the unborn child.

The Borough has entered into an agreement with the Liverpool Maternity Hospital for the provision of an emergency maternity service or "Flying Squad." Under this agreement a specialist, nurse, and ambulance can be rushed to the home of any mother who is in danger. The agreement is one of which any Public Health Authority would feel justly proud. The Report of the Ministry of Health on an Investigation into Maternal Mortality attributed most of the deaths of mothers in childbirth to three causes:—

1. The absence or inadequacy of ante-natal services;
2. The lack of effective medical treatment;
3. The failure of the mother to seek advice.

For some considerable time the Borough has provided ante-natal services where mothers could obtain treatment and advice, propaganda has also been employed urging the use of public health services or attendance at the family doctor's surgery in order that necessary advice may be given to all. The institution of this emergency maternity service is providing the means for obtaining effective medical treatment in dangerous cases. I feel confident that through the continued use of these services the health of the population will benefit and the deaths of mothers in childbirth steadily decrease.

A most welcome decision of the Council was for the provision of new and larger premises for the clinic serving the residents in the northern portion of the Borough. It has always been my contention that the existing premises were not only too small, but also, entirely



unsuited for use as a Health Centre, and I feel that the Council have taken a very important and beneficial step.

The provision of swimming baths in the Borough has been approved by the Council and I think that in doing so the Council has taken upon itself the supplying of a most pronounced need of the inhabitants, and in particular, of the younger generation. I am of the opinion that there is also a great need for Public Wash-houses, centrally situated in the Borough, due to the types of houses in the area generally, and particularly in the southern portion of the district.

Towards the end of August the Ministry of Health held an Inquiry at the Town Hall in respect of a Clearance Area involving 27 houses and 1 W.C. The Council's Order was confirmed by the Ministry in November.

It is most regrettable that with the increased growth of the public health services within the Borough and the corresponding need for greater supervision on my part and greater clinical and clerical work on the part of the staff, there has, of necessity, been a decrease in the amount of time which I, and members of my staff, can devote to these important matters. Air Raid Precautions have, and still are, demanding much of the time which should be, and certainly needs to be, devoted to the administrative, supervisory and executive work of the department. As a consequence the work of my department has to a considerable extent, unavoidably suffered.

In the early part of the year, Miss Sutton, who for 26 years had been engaged in my department as Health Visitor and Infant Life Protection Visitor, retired from the service. I must record my appreciation of the very excellent services rendered by Miss Sutton.

I must record also my appreciation of the assistance and co-operation in the work of public health of the Waterloo-with-Seaforth Ladies Health Society and the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

Finally, it is my duty as well as my pleasure to express my sincere appreciation of the manner in which all the members of my staff have continued to give me their most excellent services and of the keen interest shown by members of the Health Committee in particular, and the members of the Council generally, in the work of my department. I am greatly indebted to the Chairman of the Health Committee for his unfailing assistance and sympathy in all matters affecting the department.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

VINCENT J. GLOVER,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## SECTION I.

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### Natural and Social Conditions of the Area and Vital Statistics

#### 1. NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Borough of Crosby is situated on the estuary of the Mersey to the north of Bootle, and having on its eastern boundary agricultural land for almost its entire length. On the northern and north-eastern sides it is bounded by the Urban District of Formby, and to the south-east by the Rimrose Brook. This brook for a portion of its length in Seaforth is culverted where it passes under Seaforth Road and certain property in Sandy Road. A scheme of drainage for the Rimrose Brook Watershed has been agreed to by the Authorities concerned, which comprise the Lancashire County Council and the Councils of the districts through which the brook flows. The scheme provides for culverting and diverting the line of the existing brook and its removal as an open brook from this district entirely.

The district is well provided with parks and open spaces and these are evenly situated throughout the Borough, serving residents in each part. Of some 94 acres devoted to these amenities, 27 acres are situated in the southern portion of the Borough, 32 acres in the central portion and 35 acres in the northern portion.

The work of laying out Beach Lawn Garden was commenced in 1937 and has continued throughout 1938 and the garden will be open to the public in April, 1939. A special feature of this garden will be a rockery stream and pools falling into a lake. When the work is completed the gardens on the river front will extend from Great George's Road to Harbord Road.

The new playing field adjoining Potters Barn in Crosby Road South is not yet open to the public as the turf is not yet ready for playing on. It is anticipated, however, that this will be opened for the season of 1939.

The laying out of the Moorside Road Playing Field in the northern portion of the Borough is progressing satisfactorily and will eventually comprise 3 tennis courts, 1 bowling green and 1 putting green.

The Storm Relief Drainage Scheme for the northern portion of the Borough is almost completed and will be in operation early in 1939.

2. VITAL STATISTICS

Area, 6,852 acres (Land and inland water 4,771 acres, Foreshore 2,081 acres).

Population (Census 1931), 50,562.

Population (Estimated 1938), 55,780.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books, 15,956.

Rateable value at 1st April, 1938, £490,248.

Sum represented by a penny rate (Estimated 1938-39), £1,920.

Live births—

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate .....	770	410	360
Illegitimate .....	29	7	22
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total.....	799	417	382
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			14.3

	Total	M.	F.
Stillbirths .....	32	16	16
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births .....			38

	Total	M.	F.
Deaths .....	639	320	319
Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			*11.4

Deaths from puerperal causes—

	Deaths
Puerperal sepsis .....	1
Other puerperal causes .....	—
	<hr/>
Total.....	1
Death-rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births .....	1.20

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births .....	58
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births..	53
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live birth	206
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .....	111
„ „ Measles (all ages).....	7
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	1
„ „ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) .....	2

Population—

Estimate, mid-1938, 55,780.

	Per 1,000 of estimated population				Maternal Mortality rate		Rate of deaths under one year per 1000 live births
	Live birth-rate.	Crude death-rate.	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1000 live births	Per 1000 total (live & still) births	
Mean of 5 years,							
1933-1937	14.3	11.9	0.67	1.64	4.00	3.84	60
Year 1937	15.0	12.7	0.62	1.76	4.76	4.54	56
„ 1938	14.3	*11.4	0.59	1.98	1.25	1.20	58

Increase or decrease in 1938 on—  
5 years' average,

1933-1937	nil	-0.5	-0.08	+0.34	-2.75	-2.64	-2
Previous year	-0.7	-1.3	-0.03	+0.22	-3.51	-3.34	+2

\*1938 adjusted death-rate (comparability factor, 1.03) = 11.7 per 1,000.



## Causes of Death in the Borough of Crosby, 1938

Causes of Death (Civilians only)	Males	Females
ALL CAUSES .....	320	319
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .....	—	—
2. Measles .....	5	2
3. Scarlet Fever .....	—	—
4. Whooping Cough .....	1	—
5. Diphtheria .....	3	4
6. Influenza .....	—	2
7. Encephalitis Lethargica .....	1	—
8. Cerebro-Spinal Fever .....	—	—
9. Tuberculosis of respiratory system .....	18	15
10. Other Tuberculous diseases .....	1	4
11. Syphilis .....	3	—
12. General Paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis .....	1	—
13. Cancer, malignant disease .....	54	57
14. Diabetes .....	8	4
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. ....	15	27
16. Heart Disease .....	69	75
17. Aneurysm .....	—	1
18. Other circulatory diseases .....	16	16
19. Bronchitis .....	7	8
20. Pneumonia (all forms) .....	18	12
21. Other respiratory diseases .....	3	2
22. Peptic Ulcer .....	2	4
23. Diarrhœa, etc. (under two years) .....	—	2
24. Appendicitis .....	3	1
25. Cirrhosis of Liver .....	2	1
26. Other diseases of Liver, etc. ....	1	1
27. Other Digestive diseases .....	5	4
28. Acute and Chronic Nephritis .....	12	11
29. Puerperal Sepsis .....	—	1
30. Other Puerperal causes .....	—	—
31. Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc. ....	18	11
32. Senility .....	5	16
33. Suicide .....	3	3
34. Other Violence .....	21	8
35. Other defined diseases .....	25	24
36. Causes ill-defined or unknown .....	—	3
SPECIAL CAUSES (included in No. 35 above)		
Smallpox .....	—	—
Poliomyelitis .....	—	—
Polioencephalitis .....	—	—
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE		
Total .....	27	20
Legitimate .....	24	17
Illegitimate .....	3	3
LIVE BIRTHS		
Total .....	417	382
Legitimate .....	410	360
Illegitimate .....	7	22
STILL BIRTHS		
Total .....	16	16
Legitimate .....	15	16
Illegitimate .....	1	—

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS  
OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL DEATH-  
RATES, AND CASE-RATES FOR CER-  
TAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE  
YEAR 1938.

{ England and Wales,  
London, 126 Great  
Towns & 148 Smaller  
Towns.

*Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.*

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London, Adminis- trative County
Rates per 1,000 Population				
BIRTHS				
Live .....	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4
Still .....	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48
DEATHS				
All Causes.....	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox .....	0.00	...	0.00	...
Measles .....	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06
Scarlet Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria .....	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05
Influenza .....	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06
NOTIFICATIONS				
Smallpox .....	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Scarlet Fever ...	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05
Diphtheria .....	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90
Enteric Fever ...	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas.....	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46
Pneumonia .....	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98
Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age ...	5.3	5.7	5.1	5.7
Deaths from Diar- rhea and En- teritis under 2 years of age ...	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1
MATERNAL MORTALITY				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.89	} Not available		
Others .....	2.19			
Total .....	3.08			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)				
MATERNAL MORTALITY				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.86	} Not available		
Others .....	2.11			
Total .....	2.97			
NOTIFICATIONS				
Puerperal Fever } Puerperal } pyrexia }	14.42	18.08	12.51	3.53 15.46



## SECTION 2.

### General Provision of Health Services in the Area

#### Hospitals

##### SMALLPOX AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There is no Infectious Hospital in the district, but an arrangement is in force whereby cases are treated in the Liverpool Infectious Diseases Hospitals. Patients are received until the Hospitals are full, the available accommodation being sufficient for the needs of the district.

##### TUBERCULOSIS

Administered by the County Council.

##### MATERNITY CASES

There is no Maternity Hospital in the district, but the Liverpool Hospitals are available.

##### CHILDREN'S AND OTHERS

Waterloo and District General Hospital, also Bootle and Liverpool Hospitals.

Three Institutions in the district receive unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants or homeless children.

##### AMBULANCE FACILITIES

- (a) For Infectious Cases—Liverpool Corporation Motor Ambulance.
- (b) For non-infectious cases and accident cases—Motor Ambulances, Bootle General Hospital, Lancashire Public Assistance Committee, and Merseyside Hospitals (Penny in the £ subscribers) Ambulance.

#### Clinics and Treatment Centres

Clinic	Situation	By whom provided
Maternity & Child Welfare,	Prince Street, Waterloo.	Borough
do.	do. York Avenue, Crosby.	„
School Clinic,	Prince Street, Waterloo.	„
do.	York Avenue, Crosby.	„
Ophthalmic Clinic,	Prince Street, Waterloo.	„
Dental Clinics,	Prince Street, Waterloo, and York Avenue.	„
Tonsils and Adenoids Clinic,	Waterloo General Hospital.	„

Clinic	Situation	By whom provided
Artificial Light Clinic, Prince Street, Waterloo.		Borough
Aural Clinic, Prince Street, Waterloo.		"
Orthopædic Clinic, Lancashire County Council's, Litherland.		
Tuberculosis Dispensary, 7 Claremont Road, Seaforth.		County Council
Venereal Disease, Bootle and Liverpool Hospitals.		" "

### Miscellaneous

### PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME

There are two Nursing Associations in the Borough:

1. The Waterloo and Seaforth Nursing Association which employs two nurses.
2. The Great Crosby Nursing Association which also employs two nurses.

### MIDWIVES

There are 11 midwives practising in the district, 6 of these are salaried midwives in the employ of the Lancashire County Council. All the midwives hold the certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

### BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK

All specimens requiring bacteriological examination are submitted to Professor Wright, City Bacteriologist, City Laboratories, Liverpool.

### WATER SUPPLY

The water supply for the district is supplied by Liverpool Corporation. The chief source of supply is Lake Vyrnwy in Wales. The water is moderately soft in character and is excellent for all domestic purposes. All houses are supplied from the public mains.

### SCAVENGING

This work is carried out by the Corporation workmen under the supervision of a Cleansing Superintendent directed by the Borough Engineer.

The main roads are cleansed daily, other roads at less frequent intervals—at least once weekly. The district is therefore kept in a clean and tidy state.

## SECTION 3.

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### Maternity and Child Welfare

#### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Under this act 658 live births and 18 still-births were notified during 1938 and 167 births were transferred, from hospitals and nursing homes outside this district, to the area. Of the births notified and transferred 676 were visited and 1,518 revisits were made to children under the age of one year.

1837 visits were made to children between the ages of one and five years and whenever considered necessary the patients were advised to obtain medical aid. 569 special visits were made to the children. Enquiries were made regarding 18 still-births.

#### INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

It is perhaps expedient at this point to make clear the fact that Infant Welfare work carried out by the Public Health Department is not intended to replace or usurp the work of the general practitioner, it aims rather at being complementary to it. I would most strongly discourage the idea that the clinic is intended to replace the family doctor.

It is quite obvious that only minor ailments can be dealt with at the clinic, and that those suffering from such complaints as diarrhœa, vomiting, bronchial diseases, etc., must be referred to outside medical agencies for necessary treatment. The purpose of the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics is to keep those who attend them fit and well and to teach them how to keep themselves in good health. The function of the clinic is mainly "preventative" not "curative."

A vast amount of work still requires to be done in this sphere, the performance of it must result in better health and increased human happiness. Infant Welfare may well be described as the key to personal health and national fitness; it requires to be assessed in terms of physiological development rather than in terms of a decline in the infant mortality rates, which really measure the failure to preserve life and are greatly affected by other factors such as ante-natal care, etc.

The attendances at the Infant Welfare clinics, held once a week at the York Avenue Clinic and twice a week at the Prince Street Clinic, have been very satisfactory. The attendance of the mothers has been regular and they are of the type one desires to see at the clinic—many of them being young mothers. Appropriate lectures are delivered on a variety of subjects, e.g., ante-natal and post-natal care, infant care and complaints, personal hygiene, etc. Instruction is given as to the

value of fresh air, sunlight, cleanliness, proper dietary, appropriate clothing, regularity in hours of feeding and sleeping, and the preparation and cooking of cheap nutritious food. Babies are stripped and weighed weekly, the weights are charted at the clinic for reference and a card record of the weights is given to the mother.

The following table shows the attendances at these clinics and is a good indication of their popularity and usefulness. The clinic for Crosby residents is held at the York Avenue clinic on Wednesdays, that for Waterloo residents is held at the Prince Street Clinic on Mondays, and that for Scaforth residents is also held at the Prince Street clinic on Wednesdays.

Table showing Attendances at Infant Welfare Clinics, 1938.

Month	Crosby	Waterloo	Scaforth	Total
January.....	242	383	397	1,022
February .....	313	384	398	1,095
March .....	370	545	534	1,449
April .....	173	234	240	647
May .....	177	279	286	742
June .....	173	234	240	647
July .....	188	364	394	946
August .....	190	383	374	947
September ....	208	361	365	934
October .....	154	439	295	888
November ....	249	401	436	1,086
December ....	281	295	213	789
Totals .....	2,718	4,302	4,172	11,192
Average attendances	54	86	83	75

The Ladies of the Waterloo-with-Scaforth Health Society continue to do most excellent work in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare. During the year the Society has given very necessary assistance to 112 families, including nursing and expectant mothers. Each case was personally and regularly visited and the circumstances entered into by the Ladies. Virol, Irridex and Maltoline have been supplied free or at reduced prices upon the instructions of the Society, the difference in cost being reimbursed to the Corporation out of the Society's funds. Milk has been supplied to children who did not come within the scope of the Milk Scheme, umbilical belts were supplied to babies, maternity bags and blankets have been lent out as required, fire guards have been provided at a low cost, and baby garments are supplied at cost price.

I think I may say with confidence that the Infant Welfare Centres are greatly appreciated by the mothers and most certainly from a public health standpoint the work accomplished at these centres is of tremendous value.



## ANTE-NATAL AND POST NATAL CLINICS

The co-operation of the County Midwives with the Health Visitors in respect of home visiting of expectant mothers is of great value. The midwives also attend the ante-natal and post-natal clinics and such procedure brings them into a happy and helpful association with the medical and health visiting staffs of the Borough.

A great deal has been done and much is still being accomplished in the promoting of normal child-birth by instruction in personal hygiene and the necessity for suitable food, fresh air, exercise, adequate rest and sleep and proper clothing. The ready use of the facilities provided at the ante-natal clinic shows how appreciative the mothers are and illustrates the necessity for such a clinic.

The post-natal clinic continues to provide for the medical examination of mothers a few weeks after delivery but the acceptances of the offer of such examination and supervision show no tendency to increase.

Table showing attendances at Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.

Clinic	No. of Notified Births	No. of Expectant Mothers who attended Clinic	Total Attendances to Clinic	% of number attended to number of notified births
Ante-Natal . . . .	676	215	1,287	31.8
Post-Natal . . . .	676	27	33	4.0

Of the 242 cases who attended the ante-natal and post-natal clinics, 144 were referred to the clinic by midwives, 24 were referred by doctors and 38 by hospitals.

In addition to the attendances at the clinic the health visitors made 366 visits to the homes of these cases.

Where necessary patients were referred to Hospital—Waterloo General Hospital, Liverpool Maternity Hospital or the Royal Infirmary—for special advice, treatment or investigation (including radiological examination). Some of the reasons for sending these patients being: glycosuria, abnormal presentation, contracted pelvis, chest complications, albuminuria and suspected malformation of the child.

Routine advice and treatment were given at the clinic and the attendance of patients was more regular.

In addition to the routine advice and examination the following matters were dealt with:—

1. Artificial Light Treatment was prescribed and given in three cases.
2. Dental treatment, and in approved cases dentures, have been given to nursing and expectant mothers. 25 cases received treatment during the year at an approximate cost of £49.

3. Provision of extra nourishment.
4. Blood tests.
5. Dick Testing for immunity against Scarlet Fever and similar infections was carried out and patients with a positive reaction were offered a course of immunisation.

### ARTIFICIAL SUNLIGHT CLINIC

Before treatment each child is thoroughly examined by the Medical Officer who recommends suitable cases for treatment. These children are medically examined weekly whilst undergoing treatment and records of weight and temperature are kept in respect of each child. In many cases the children are suffering from insufficient nourishment and are referred to the Ladies Health Society, through whose generous help much needed supplies of milk, milk foods and medical necessities (Malt, Halibut Oil, Vitamin Capsules, etc.) are supplied.

The following table affords an excellent example of the good work that the clinic is doing in the promotion of infant health and welfare:—

Analysis of Cases attending the Artificial Light Clinic:—

Condition	No. of Cases	No. of At-tendances	No. of Cases Cured	No. who ceased to attend	No. still having treatment	No. referred to Hospital
Rickets .....	35	455	28	1	5	1
Debility	69	418	56	..	13	..
Malnutrition						
Underweight						
Rheumatism ..	1	24	1	..	..	..
Alopecia .....	1	8	1	..	..	..
Dermatitis .....	1	2	..	1	..	..
Acidosis .....	1	21	1	..	..	..
Anaemia .....	4	22	3	..	1	..
Totals .....	112	950	90	*2	19	1

\*Both cases left the district.

Treatment is by Mercury Quartz Vapour Lamps coupled with Radiant Heat Lamps.

### AURAL CLINIC

Before treatment at the aural clinic all children are examined by the Medical Officer who then recommends suitable cases for treatment. The following table shows the types of cases dealt with and the attendances at this clinic.



## Analysis of Cases attending the Aural Clinic:—

Condition	No. of Cases	No. of Attendances	No. of Cases Cured	No. who ceased to attend	No. still having treatment	No. referred to Hospital
Tympanic Sepsis..	62	645	21	1	40	..
Septic Rhinitis ..	22	110	12	1	9	..
Septic Tonsils ..	20	91	16	..	4	..
Impacted Cerumen	12	36	3	1	8	..
Lupus .....	1	23	1	..	..	..
Otorrhœa .....	19	130	10	..	9	..
Otitis Media ....	14	40	8	..	6	..
Granulations ....	5	20	4	..	..	1
Nasal						
Obstruction	4	16	2	..	2	..
Traumatic						
Rhinitis	9	30	5	..	4	..
Catarrhal Deafness.	14	42	6	..	8	..
Warts .....	5	15	5	..	..	..
Totals .....	187	1,198	93	3	90	1

Methods of treatment found to be most useful in the work of this clinic are:—

1. Diastolisation.—Soft rubber bougies shaped to nasal passages. These relieve nasal obstruction and open out the air passages.
2. Irrigation.—For cleaning aural and nasal passages. The instrument used is a steel container into which air is passed by means of an electric motor and ball bearing aero pump. This gives an even stream, the pressure of which is controlled by the speed of the motor. This is found to be safer than the usual aural syringe.
3. Kromayer Lamp.—A quartz lamp for local treatments of the ear, nose and throat.
4. Ionisation.—For chronic inflammation of the ear, removal of warts, etc.
5. Ultra Short Wave Diathermy.—The instrument used is a new introduction,—a double valve coupled to two rectifying valves—its value has yet to be fully tested.

## ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC

20 cases were referred from the Infant Welfare Centres for orthopædic consultations. These children made 58 attendances at the clinic. In two of the cases no orthopædic defect was found. The remainder of the cases were as follows:—

Disease or Defect	Number
Abduction of shoulder .....	1
Left club foot .....	1
Flat feet .....	3
Swelling right foot .....	1
Retarded development .....	1
Right sided Spastic Limiplegia .....	1
Knock knee .....	4
Bilateral Pes cavus .....	1
Bow legs .....	2
Rickets .....	2

Multiple defects were found in one case.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936—CHILD LIFE PROTECTION

Provision has been made for carrying out the duties under Sections 206 to 220 of this Act. The Health Visitors have been appointed Child Life Protection Visitors and during the year they have made 104 visits to children in the care of foster-parents.

The year started with 12 foster-parents on the register, this number had decreased to 8 at the end of the year. There were 14 children on the register at the beginning of the year and this number decreased to 10 at the end of the year. An inquest was held on one child who died during the year.

#### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Number Notified	CASES		Unimpaired Vision	Deaths
	Treated			
	At Home	In Hospital		
8	8	—	—	—

## SECTION 4

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### Immunisation

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever has been continued throughout the Borough on similar lines to those existing in the former Urban District of Waterloo-with-Seaforth as reported upon in my Annual Report for 1937.

Dr. Hodgson, Medical Superintendent of the Liverpool Infectious Hospital, Fazakerley, has informed me that since 1928 Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever have been unduly prevalent on Merseyside, and in a letter to me dated 12th August, 1938, he wrote:—

“You know, before the War, when we had a really ‘shocker’ of a case of diphtheria we used to describe it as a ‘Waterloo case’ because Waterloo and . . . (not in the Borough) seemed somehow to contribute most of the old-fashioned helplessly toxic cases. It is therefore, as you will agree, a very striking position for me to be in now, when a glance through my books shows that any case from Waterloo is a rarity. No further explanation is needed, as the comparison speaks for itself.”

The portion of the Borough referred to in Dr. Hodgson’s letter is that formerly comprising the Urban District of Waterloo-with-Seaforth which has a highly immunised child population—some 60% of the children between the ages of 1 and 14 years having been immunised by that Authority. There are in addition of course, those immunised by private practitioners and those protected by a previous attack of the disease.

The other portion of the Borough, that which previously comprised the Urban District of Great Crosby had, and still has, comparatively few of its population immunised, and did not offer immunisation against Scarlet Fever.

The following comparison of the two areas is interesting:—

#### Northern Area.

Almost entirely residential, has considerable open land. Population approx. 21,000. Only small proportion of population immunised.

#### Southern Area.

At least 50% industrial population housed in small dwellings. Little open land, population approx. 26,000. High proportion of population immunised.

\*Cost of hospital treatment of Infectious diseases 1st April, 1937, to 8th November, 1937, as per Borough Treasurer's Abstract of Accounts, £646 2s. 1d.

\*Cost of hospital treatment of Infectious diseases 1st April, 1937, to 8th November, 1937, as per Borough Treasurer's Abstract of Accounts, £170 10s. 8d.

\*These figures are used as they are the last figures published which differentiate between the two sections of the Borough.

Various methods of propaganda are employed in the advising of immunisation against diphtheria and scarlet fever, they consist mainly in:—

1. Talks by a Medical Officer to mothers attending Maternity and Child Welfare Centres and to parents generally who bring their children to the school clinics.
2. The distribution of simple leaflets setting forth the advantages of immunisation. These leaflets are distributed at Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, school clinics, school medical inspections. Head Teachers also supply copies to the parents of each new child attending the school, the Vaccination Officer, Sanitary Inspectors, Health Visitors and School Nurses distribute them in the course of their duties.

The bottom portion of the leaflet is a request for the immunisation of children, it is detachable, and only requires the signature of the parent and delivery at my department.

3. Suitable posters are exhibited in appropriate positions throughout the Borough at least once every year.

In this Borough there is now a strong demand from the residents for the immunisation of their children and I receive a steady stream of applications for it to be done. Parents frequently tell me that their child has been in contact with a case of diphtheria or scarlet fever and has not succumbed to an attack of the disease. Many of them also tell me that they tell others of this and I am convinced that propaganda of this type is of more value than all the rest together.

Whilst propaganda in these forms succeeds in bringing children to the immunisation clinics for the necessary injections it fails to bring them back for Shick or Dick Testing some four months after immunisation and it also fails to bring them back for re-testing or re-immunisation every four years. I am convinced that the only method of securing these subsequent attendances at the clinic is by visits to the home by the Health Visitor. This would mean of course that Immunisation would be a whole-time job for one Health Visitor, but I am confident that, apart from the beneficial results in health, this expenditure on immunisation would be more than counterbalanced by the reduction in numbers requiring treatment in isolation hospitals.



The following table shows the numbers and age groups of those who have been immunised at the clinic.

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever, 1931/1938

<i>No. of persons immunised against</i>	<i>Age Periods Years</i>			<i>Total</i>
	<i>Under 5</i>	<i>5-15</i>	<i>Over 15</i>	
<b>DIPHTHERIA</b>				
Year				
1931 .....	14	53	1	68
1932 .....	136	508	9	653
1933 .....	182	466	7	655
1934 .....	224	448	15	687
1935 .....	132	425	10	567
1936 .....	99	217	1	317
1937 .....	39	107	10	156
1938 .....	103	274	24	401
Totals, 1931/38...	929	2498	77	3504
<b>SCARLET FEVER</b>				
Year				
1931 .....	14	53	1	68
1932 .....	136	499	9	644
1933 .....	182	466	8	656
1934 .....	224	448	15	687
1935 .....	124	421	10	555
1936 .....	96	220	1	317
1937 .....	38	101	2	141
1938 .....	103	278	18	399
Totals, 1931/38...	917	2486	64	3467

N.B.—The figures relating to 1931/37 refer to immunisation in the former U.D.C. of Waterloo-with-Seaforth, whilst those for 1938 refer to immunisation in the new Borough.

During the year, 219 Dick Tests and 218 Schick Tests have been performed.

## SECTION 5.

## Inspection and Supervision of Food

## ADULTERATION, etc.

The Corporation is not the authority for the administration of the Food and Drugs Adulteration Act. It is administered by the County Police. From the information kindly supplied by the Superintendent of Police, it was found that the following samples had been taken and examined under the above Act:—

Description of Samples	No. purchased
Milk .....	153
Ground Rice .....	5
Epsom Salts .....	1
Marmalade.....	1
Cheese .....	3
Cornflour .....	2
Chocolate .....	1
Margarine .....	1
Coffee .....	1
Sugar .....	5
Pepper .....	3
Tapioca .....	3
Ground Ginger .....	1
Oatmeal .....	3
Meat Pies .....	1
Borax .....	2
Lard .....	2
Flour .....	2
Butter .....	3
Gravy Salt .....	2
Rice .....	3
Cocoa .....	2
Arrowroot .....	1
Tea .....	2
Coffee .....	2
Blanc Mange Powder .....	2
Soap Powder .....	1
Honey.....	1
Cinnamon .....	1
Baking Powder .....	2
Pearl Barley .....	1
Custard Powder .....	1



Description of Samples	No. purchased
Ground Almonds .....	1
Egg Substitute .....	1
Canned Fish .....	1
Camphorated Oil .....	1
Boracic Ointment .....	1
Liquorice Powder .....	1
Table Jelly .....	1
Sauce .....	1
Beef Suet .....	1
Seidlitz Powder .....	1
Bicarbonate of Soda .....	1

Proceedings were instituted in regard to one sample of milk, the vendor being convicted.

## BAKEHOUSES

There are 38 Bakehouses in the Borough, 3 of which are Basement bakehouses.

100 visits of inspection were made to these premises which were found to be well maintained. In 19 instances occupiers were notified as to the cleansing and limewashing and in 11 instances various defects were found which were remedied.

In accordance with Section 54 of the Factories Act, 1937, Certificates of Suitability were issued in respect of the Basement Bakehouses.

## MILK SUPPLY

The number of cowkeepers on the register at the end of the year was 29, one less than last year. One satisfactory cowshed which had accommodation for 24 cows has been demolished to make room for a cinema. The approximate number of cows kept in the Borough for dairy purposes is 558. The general standard of construction and cleanliness of the cowsheds is good. The roof of one cowshed, accommodating 14 cows, was stripped, boarded and slated, and two new louver ventilators in the ridge provided. In another instance the dairy accommodation was improved by the construction of a separate room for cleansing of dairy utensils.

The number of dairies and milkshops on the register other than those belonging to Cowkeepers is 33.

The visits of inspection during the year were 337.

Sixty five samples of milk were taken in the Borough, and submitted for examination, seven (or 10.7%) were found to contain tubercle bacilli. Of these, three of the infected samples were produced in the Borough. The County Medical Officer of Health was notified

in each instance, and examination of the herds was subsequently carried out by Veterinary Inspectors of the Board of Agriculture, and the animals found to be infected were removed and slaughtered.

### CLEANLINESS OF MILK SUPPLY

In 65 samples of milk submitted for bacteriological examination, 33 of the samples *B. coli* was absent in 1/100 ccs. and 19 were reported to have a colony count of over 200,000 per cc.

### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There are no Slaughterhouses in the Borough, practically all the meat that comes into the Borough is from Liverpool Corporation Abattoir.

The inspection of Food premises is carried out by inspectors possessing the necessary qualifications. Shops, vehicles and premises, dealing with the preparation, storage and the retailing of food are kept under supervision. In carrying out this work, the following visits of inspection were made:—

Butchers Shops, 246 visits.

Other food shops and premises, 1064 visits.

The following articles of food were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:—

- 1 Pig's head;
- 1 Pig's Lungs;
- 1 Beast's Lungs.

### CLEANLINESS OF ICE CREAM

Six samples of ice cream were taken and submitted to the City Laboratories for bacteriological examination. Five of these were satisfactory. One sample was unsatisfactory and the premises were visited. Enquiry proved that this ice cream had been manufactured outside the Borough. The Authority concerned was notified. The standard of cleanliness adopted is *B. Coli* absent in 1/100 ccs. and a colony count of less than 200,000 per cc.

SECTION 6.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED

924 cases of Infectious Disease have been notified and 326 of these were removed to Hospital. The number of cases notified last year was 598. The following table is an analysis of the cases notified.

First visits and re-visits have been paid to houses where infectious disease occurred. Enquiries were made into each case. 389 intimations were sent to Head Teachers regarding school children from houses where there was infectious disease.

999 rooms at dwelling-houses were disinfected and cleansed, paper being scraped from off the walls wherever necessary.

Disinfecting fluid has been given to the ratepayers when infectious disease occurred in their homes.

9017 articles of bedding, and 561 library books have been disinfected.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK

The following specimens were examined by Professor Wright, City Laboratories, Liverpool:

Throat swabs .....	674
Blood .....	6
Sputum .....	12

During the year 226 cases of diphtheria were notified to me, the incidence of the disease, therefore, being unduly high. The main cause of this high incidence was found to be the existence of several carriers, all apparently in excellent health, amongst the school children. In all, 24 school children were found to be carriers and analysis of them revealed:—

1. 10 had been immunised.

2. 19 were of the Gravis, 1 was of the Intermedia type, 2 were of the Mitis type and 2 were not typed.

3. The ages of the children were:—
- |              |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Age (years): | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| No.          | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 1  |

## 4. The sites of discovery were:—

St. Thomas R.C. School	8
St. John's C.E. School	1
Crosby Road North Junior School	12
A Private School	1
Other sources	2

I found it necessary to close Crosby Road North Junior School for one week because of the high incidence of the disease.

It is my practise, when several cases of diphtheria occur in any school, to offer swabbing to all the scholars after obtaining the consent of their parents. Where isolated cases of the disease occur I adopt a similar procedure as regards children who have sat in close proximity to the affected child. I have found this practise invaluable for, since I adopted it some years ago, it has enabled me to discover a number of carriers who would otherwise have been missed.

## THE "CARRIER"

One of the greatest bugbears of a Medical Officer of Health is the diphtheria or scarlet fever carrier. He or she may be removed to hospital and may remain there for six months and still be a carrier. To my personal knowledge an otorrhœa may be quiescent for years, break out anew and infect others with either diphtheria or scarlet fever, proved by discovering the diphtheria bacilli or the hæmolytic streptococcus of Group A in the discharge. Cessation of the otorrhœa may again ensue, even for years, and similar infection of others occur with a similar finding of the causative agent in the discharge. A mastoid operation is not justifiable as the otorrhœa yields to treatment and ceases. A typical example of such a case is noted in an Annual Report of mine as Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District of Waterloo-with-Seaforth. The case was that of a youth whose ear had not run since infancy. Otorrhœa recurred whilst the youth was at college and caused the infection, with scarlet fever, of several others at monthly intervals. The boy was sent home from college and after treatment by a specialist returned with no otorrhœa. Some two years later a similar outbreak of scarlet fever occurred in the same college and at similar intervals, and I found that the youth's ear had again commenced running. Each case on its occurrence was sent to an Isolation Hospital, and after the youth was sent home no further case occurred.

Experience has convinced me that the carrier condition is due to some "focal infection" of the naso-pharynx or accessory sinuses. Carriers amongst school children have been referred to our Aurist and Artificial Light Therapeutician who has found many of them to



have some part thereof unhealthy. Treatment of such part has generally cleared up the case very rapidly. There remains however the case in which no such focus could be found and in which the organism was probably deeply embedded or was in an accessory nasal sinus and where "failure" resulted. Some years ago I induced our Aurist to supplement carrier treatment by six treatments of the Kromayer Lamp, spread over a period of two weeks, consisting on each occasion of two minutes oral treatment and two minutes nasal treatment. For the latter treatment the nasal tube is gently pushed through the nostril until it impinges on the naso-pharynx. If there is otorrhœa the external meatus is gently swabbed out with dry wool and the ear tube of the Kromayer Lamp is then gently pushed down it and a two minutes treatment given. This treatment is given in conjunction with any other treatment which the Aurist considers beneficial. So far, although my cases are not many, each has cleared up with the six treatments of the Kromayer Lamp and this has been confirmed by at least two swabbings. Some of the cases have also had a course of treatment by exposure of the body to the Mercury Quartz Vapour Lamp.

The incidence of measles was high during 1938, particularly in the first two months, 474 cases were notified to me compared with 278 notified in 1937. In January, because of the high incidence of the disease, I recommended the closure of five school departments involving four separate schools. The average period of exclusion was 13 days.

Table of Notifiable Diseases

Number of cases of infectious disease *notified* other than tuberculosis, the number of deaths from these diseases, the number of cases removed to hospital, and the deaths in hospital during the year 1938

Disease	Total Cases Notified												Hospital	
	Total Cases at all Ages	Years										Total Deaths	Total Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to District
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over
Scarlet Fever .....	124	..	5	7	4	15	42	18	12	13	7	..	1	..
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) .....	223	..	9	10	15	22	104	31	12	13	3	4	..	7
Acute P. Pneumonia .....	36	2	3	1	2	3	5	2	2	2	3	7	4	..
Acute Influenza Pneumonia .....	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) .....	8	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	2	2	..	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	8	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .....	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	4	11	3	..
Measles (excluding German Measles) .....	474	17	29	39	42	73	232	32	5	5	..	..	..	1
German Measles .....	20	3	..	1	1	2	11	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Trachoma .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
† Whooping Cough .....	4	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals .....	924	31	47	59	65	115	397	85	32	42	20	22	9	15
													326	9

† Cases notified in Gt. Crosby U.D.C. area.



SECTION 7.

Tuberculosis

Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, 78 cases were notified to be suffering from this disease. There were 38 deaths during the year. The comparative figures for 1937 were 85 cases notified and 41 deaths.

The following brief report of the activities of the Dispensary organisation, under the Lancashire County Council, to residents in the Borough of Crosby, has been supplied by Dr. Laird:—

“It will be apparent to you that the figures applying to all branches of the work show a very definite increase; this does not mean that the number of cases has increased, but rather that greater attention has been given to diagnosis and progress, and greater supervision has been exercised.”

Description	1938		1937
Initial Examinations:		..	
Waterloo .....	68	..	84
Seaforth .....	58	..	48
Crosby and Blundellsands .....	69	..	57
..	—	..	—
Total.....	195	..	189
..	=	..	=
Re-examinations:			
Waterloo .....	328	..	206
Seaforth .....	283	..	207
Crosby and Blundellsands .....	215	..	174
..	—		—
Total.....	826	..	587
..	=		=
Sputum Examinations:			
Positive.....	85	..	73
Negative .....	229	..	216
..	—		—
Total.....	314	..	289
..	=		=
X-Ray work:			
Screenings .....	326	..	101
Skiagrams .....	321	..	298
Artificial Pneumothorax Treatment:			
Individual Patients .....	18	..	11
Refills .....	206	..	60
Visits by Tuberculosis Health Visitor ....	847	..	795

Apart from patients who were in institutions at the beginning of the year, 58 were admitted during 1938, as compared with 56 during 1937.

Nursing requisites were issued on loan to 12 patients, the number of articles on loan being 30. Paper handkerchiefs, pocket flasks and sputum cups were also distributed for the hygienic disposal of sputum.

During the year 28 Mantoux tests were carried out on 19 individual patients, and 8 patients received assistance from the County Care Fund, in the form of clothing or groceries, the amount expended being £12/17/7.

In addition to those patients seen at the Dispensary, as detailed above, others were seen at their homes by myself or my assistants when they were unable to attend at the Dispensary.

It is gratifying to be able to record again the smooth working which continues to exist between this Department and your own, particularly in the matter of disinfection as directed by your Sanitary Inspectors and carried out by their staff. I am glad to record and acknowledge the valuable help which they have given to us in our work of combating tuberculosis.

Table showing New Cases and Mortality during 1938:—

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years								
0-1 .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1-5 .....	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	1
5-10 .....	..	1	..	4	..	..	..	..
10-15 .....	..	..	1	2	..	..	1	..
15-20 .....	2	2	..	2	1	..	..	1
20-25 .....	2	7	..	..	..	6	..	..
25-35 .....	6	7	2	1	4	3	..	..
35-45 .....	11	4	2	2	3	3	..	..
45-55 .....	8	4	..	..	7	2	..	..
55-65 .....	1	2	..	1	2	..	..	..
65 and upwards ..	..	1	..	1	3	..	..	1
Totals .....	30	28	7	13	20	15	1	3
	58		20		35		4	

SECTION 8.

Shops Acts, 1912-1936

1097 Visits of inspection were made to shops for the purpose of ascertaining whether assistants' hours of employment were being recorded, to check records kept, and to ensure that suitable arrangements were provided for the health and comfort of shop assistants. Observations have been made at frequent intervals in all areas in the Borough in order to see that the closing hours fixed by the Act were complied with.

Four offences were reported to the Health Committee for serving customers after hours, and in each case a letter of warning was sent.

The following improvements to shops were effected:—

Provision of suitable ventilation .....	2
„ reasonable temperature .....	12
„ sufficient sanitary conveniences .....	14
„ sufficient washing facilities .....	27

## SECTION 9.

## Factories Act, 1937

The factories in the district have been inspected, 135 visits having been made.

The walls and ceilings of 7 workrooms required linewashing or cleansing and on intimation the work was carried out.

One chemical closet and one water closet were provided to factories in Seaforth. 11 nuisances were discovered at workshops, which included the cleansing and repair of sanitary conveniences. Notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories, relative to occupation of, and insanitary conditions at workshop premises.

## HOME WORKERS

Occupiers of factories from which work of certain kinds is given out are compelled to keep a list of outworkers employed by them, and to send a copy of the list to the Local Authority in February and August of each year.

Two such lists were received during these months, referring to the same person.

The house-worker was visited on each occasion and the premises found to be satisfactory.

## 1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories with mechanical power	172	8	—
Factories without mechanical power .....	43	3	—
†Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) .....	—	—	—
Total .....	215	11	—

†Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories.

2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			No. of defects in respect of which pros- ecutions were instituted
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1) .....	4	4	3	—
Overcrowding (S. 2) .....	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) .	3	3	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4) .....	3	3	2	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7):				
Insufficient .....	2	2	—	—
Unsuitable or defective .....	3	3	—	—
Not separate for sexes .....	—	—	—	—
Other offences .....	4	4	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Work- shops Transfer of Powers) Order 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937) .....	—	—	1	—
Total .....	19	19	6	—



## SECTION 10.

### Housing and Environmental Hygiene

#### NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR

(a). Total, including number given separately under (b) . . . .	95
(1) By the Local Authority . . . . .	nil
(2) By other Local Authorities . . . . .	nil
(3) By other bodies and persons . . . . .	95
(b). With State assistance under the Housing Acts:—	
(1) By the Local Authority . . . . .	nil
(2) By other bodies or persons . . . . .	nil

#### INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

During the year, 5,479 inspections were made of properties in the district.

The smoke test has been applied 149 times to house drains and many defects were discovered which would not have been found by superficial examination. All new drains are tested by means of the smoke test which is carried out by the Building Inspector.

#### NOTICES, etc., SERVED

1,187 preliminary notices with respect to various nuisances found in the course of inspection were served upon the owners or occupiers, most of which received prompt attention. In several instances nuisances were reported to the Health Committee, and statutory notices ordered to be served.

It was found necessary to issue 165 statutory notices. In 14 instances the Council did the work in default and charged the owners with the cost. The various premises were visited during the progress of the work with the object of seeing that the notices were complied with, the number of such re-inspections being 4,372. On several occasions during the year I had to report default of compliance to abate nuisances to the Solicitor, and by his action Police Court proceedings were avoided.

#### INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

(1). (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) . . . . .	2,372
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose . . . . .	5,479

(2). (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.....	208
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	772
(3). Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	..
(4). Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	2,164

### REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers .....	1,948
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### ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....	..
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:—	
(a) By owners.....	..
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .....	..
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	165
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners.....	151
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .....	14
C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .....	..
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....	..

## D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ..... ..

## HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART IV—OVERCROWDING

- A. (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ..... 133
- (2) Number of families dwelling therein ..... 135
- B. Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ..... 4
- C. (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ..... 39
- (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ..... 200

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AND RESULTS

It was found necessary to institute legal proceedings as follows:—

Date	Nature of complaint	Act or Order under which proceedings were instituted	Result
February .....	Insufficient ashpit accommodation	Section 75 P.H.A., 1936	Council executed work in default in 1 case.
March .....	Insufficient ashpit accommodation	Section 75 P.H.A., 1936	Council executed work in default in 2 cases.
April .....	Insufficient ashpit accommodation	Section 75 P.H.A., 1936	Council executed work in default in 3 cases.
May .....	Insufficient ashpit accommodation	Section 75. P.H.A., 1936	Council executed work in default in 2 cases.
July .....	Insufficient ashpit accommodation	Section 75. P.H.A., 1936	Council executed work in default in 3 cases.
September .....	Insufficient ashpit accommodation	Section 75 P.H.A., 1936	Council executed work in 3 cases

## HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS

There were 12 houses let in lodgings on the register at the end of the year. 12 visits of inspection were made and the houses were found to be generally well kept. In fifteen instances certain defects were found, and after Informal Notice were duly remedied.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are only two offensive trades carried on in the Borough, that of a fat melter and of a fish frier. A rag dealer was proceeded against for continuing the trade when the Local Authority had refused to renew the licence.

There are 36 fish friers and one fat melter in the Borough. 189 visits of inspection were made to these premises, which were found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition.

## HOUSE REFUSE

For the removal of household refuse the Pagefield System is in operation, except in Hightown and Little Crosby area; the removal of refuse in Hightown is by means of a covered motor vehicle. In Little Crosby Village where the closet and refuse accommodation is mainly of the privy midden type, the middens are emptied by the Corporation workmen, and local farmers remove the refuse on to the land for manure.

Ashbins and pail closets are emptied weekly, and privy middens at intervals of approximately two months.

Shop refuse is removed twice weekly and the charge for collection is 3d. per bin after one free bin.

The Corporation dispose of the refuse on to tips, controlled tipping being carried out.

8,982 loads of ashbin and shop refuse (Pagefield containers), and 1,469 loads of shop refuse (Morris and Commer Motors) were removed.

## STREAMS AND WATERCOURSES

The watercourses and ditches are cleansed and bottomed by their respective owners, and receive frequent inspection. Rimrose Brook, which is situated on the eastern boundary, is polluted mainly from an effluent drain from a large piggery situate outside the Borough. This effluent has a very offensive smell, and contains far too much suspended matter to discharge into any watercourse, and gives rise to a nuisance during the summer season when there is little dilution taking place.



### SMOKE ABATEMENT

There are six factory chimneys in the District, 4 laundries, 1 brick-works, and 1 large mailorder stores.

Twelve observations were taken during the year, and in no instance was a caution required with regard to any nuisance arising from black smoke.

Bye-laws have not been made under the Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926, or the Public Health Act, 1936.

### CINEMAS

There are six cinemas in the Borough, which are generally well kept. In one instance, in response to a request, the owner put in a three stalled glazed earthenware urinal, equipped with flushing cistern in place of an unsatisfactory urinal. The asphalt surface in front and gable wall were also repaired.

### ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

The number of houses found to be infested with bugs were:—

Council houses, 1.

Other houses, 62.

The methods employed for the freeing of infested houses from bed bugs are removal of infested bedding and clothing to the disinfecting station, and thoroughly spraying of the rooms with Cromessol Solution B.

### TENTS AND VANS

There is only one van in the District used as a permanent residence, and although well-kept, it is included in a Clearance Area.

### RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919

Complaints were received regarding rat infestation which entailed 224 visits. These complaints were mainly from lands and premises near the agricultural portion of the Borough. The chief causes of the trouble were due to occupiers themselves in putting out excessive amounts of scrap food for birds, particularly in gardens where there were rock gardens and inefficient rat-proof sheds.

The methods adopted for the destruction of these rodents are dogs and ferrets, traps, poisonous bait and rat varnish smeared on card-board. Our experience is that the best results are obtained by means of dogs and ferrets.



The Corporation have an arrangement with an employee who has ferrets and dogs to act as Rat Catcher in his own time. 175 rats were caught by him during the year, and 37 rats were destroyed by traps which are loaned out free by the Department.

During Rat Week in November circulars, together with pamphlets giving simple suggestions for the destruction of these pests, were sent out to farmers, pig and poultry keepers and others whose premises were likely to harbour rats and mice, requesting that a special effort be made during this particular week, with the result that 118 rats were caught and destroyed.

## PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

There are 24 Public Elementary Schools in the Borough. The drains are flushed and the sanitary fittings examined during the principal school holidays. All the defects discovered are reported to the Education Department. Head Teachers are notified of pupils who are excluded on account of infectious disease in their homes. The number of intimations to Head Teachers during 1938 was 389.

## SUMMARY OF WORK OF DEPARTMENT

Number of houses inspected .....	5479
Number of re-inspections .....	3107
Number of visits to workshops, factories and outworkers.....	135
Number of visits to bakehouses .....	100
Number of visits to cowsheds, dairies and milk shops .....	337
Number of visits to petrol and carbide stores .....	56
Number of visits to meat shops .....	246
Number of visits to ditches, etc. ....	96
Number of visits to piggeries .....	14
Number of visits to offensive trades .....	189
Number of visits to schools .....	37
Number of visits to sub-let houses .....	12
Number of tuberculosis enquiries .....	69
Number of times smoke test applied to house drains.....	149
Number of preliminary notices served .....	1187
Number of statutory notices served .....	165
Samples of milk submitted for bacteriological examination .....	65
Cases of infectious disease reported upon.....	924
Number of houses fumigated .....	999
Visits to shops .....	1097
Articles of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected.....	9017
Number of intimations of infectious disease sent to schools .....	389
Number of library books disinfected.....	561
Number of smoke observations .....	12
Number of complaints .....	605

## DETAILS OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED DURING THE YEAR

### DRAINS

Drains choked - opened and cleansed .....	117
Defective drainage, reconstructed, relaid or repaired.....	10
Intercepting traps fixed .....	1
Inlet ventilation provided to drains .....	4

Gullies fixed in lieu of defective gullies or masons' traps .....	27
Gratings provided to existing gullies.....	33

## WATER CLOSETS

Choked closets opened and cleansed .....	5
Closet basins and traps substituted for defective ones .....	20
Closets supplied with a sufficient supply of water .....	15
Defective connection of flush pipes to closets made good .....	5
Defective closet cisterns repaired or replaced .....	56
Defective closet walls, roofs, floors, etc., made good .....	184
Foul closets and urinals cleansed .....	28
Defective flush pipes made good .....	8
Insanitary closet fixtures .....	3

## SOIL PIPES

Joints of soil pipes made gas-tight .....	45
Defective drains from soil or ventilating pipes made good .....	8
Soil and ventilating pipes made good .....	31
Ventilating pipes choked—obstruction removed.....	6
Defective connections of closet traps and soil pipes made good .....	36

## WASTE PIPES

Defective waste pipes trapped or made good .....	96
Choked waste pipes cleared .....	10
New salt-glazed stoneware sinks fixed .....	13
New washbasins fixed .....	4

## WATER SUPPLY

Premises supplied with water for domestic use .....	6
Defective water pipes and taps repaired .....	59
Water storage cisterns covered and cleansed .....	4
References, re waste of water.....	200
Defective cylinders .....	2

## FILTHY AND DILAPIDATED PREMISES

Foul houses, walls, etc., stripped and cleansed .....	19
Filthy house floors cleansed .....	1
Defective plastering and ceilings made good .....	98
Defective roofs made water tight .....	257
Defective rain water pipes and eaves gutters made good .....	130
Choked rain water pipes and eaves spouting cleared .....	10
Defective house walls re-pointed .....	153
Defective house floors repaired .....	65
Defective window-sashes re-hung and repaired .....	89
Defective pointing to window frames .....	106
Defective fireplaces, flues and chimney stacks .....	111
Defective back yard walls made good .....	43
Defective doors, frames and stairs.....	77

## MISCELLANEOUS

Premises provided with ashbin accommodation .....	4
Defective ashbins replaced or made good.....	416
Surfaces of yards repaired or repaved .....	197
Nuisances from improper keeping of animals abated .....	...
Accumulations of offensive matter removed .....	20
Miscellaneous nuisances abated .....	42
Defective washing boilers and brickwork .....	25
Defective sculleries and washhouses .....	23

## CONTENTS.

---

	<i>Page</i>
Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Town Clerk .. ..	
Members of the Health Committee .. ..	
Members of the Medical Services Sub-Committee	3
Staff .. .. .	
Preface .. .. .	4
	5, 6, 7

### Section 1.—Natural and Social Conditions of the Area and Vital Statistics.

Situation and physical features .. .. .	8
Open Spaces .. .. .	8
Area .. .. .	9
Population .. .. .	9
Inhabited houses .. .. .	9
Rateable value .. .. .	9
Product of 1d. Rate .. .. .	9
Birth Rates .. .. .	9, 10, 12
Death Rates .. .. .	9, 10, 12
Infantile Mortality Rate .. .. .	9, 10, 12
Classified causes of death .. .. .	11
Maternal Mortality Rates .. .. .	10, 12

### Section 2.—General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Hospitals and Ambulance facilities .. .. .	13
Clinics and Treatment Centres .. .. .	13, 14
Home Nursing .. .. .	14
Midwives .. .. .	14
Bacteriological work .. .. .	14
Water supply .. .. .	14
Scavenging .. .. .	14

### Section 3.—Maternity and Child Welfare.

Births Notified .. .. .	15
Health visiting .. .. .	15
Infant Welfare Centres .. .. .	15, 16

	<i>Page</i>
Ladies' Health Society .. .. .	16
Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics .. .. .	17, 18
Artificial Sunlight Clinic .. .. .	18
Aural Clinic .. .. .	18, 19
Orthopædic Clinic .. .. .	19, 20
Child Life Protection .. .. .	20
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	20
<b>Section 4.—Immunisation .. .. .</b>	<b>21-23</b>
<b>Section 5.—Inspection and Supervision of Food.</b>	
Samples taken .. .. .	24, 25
Proceedings taken .. .. .	25
Bakehouses .. .. .	25
Milk supply .. .. .	25, 26
Cleanliness of milk supply.. .. .	26
Meat and Other Foods .. .. .	26
Cleanliness of Ice Cream .. .. .	26
<b>Section 6.—Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases.</b>	
Cases Notified .. .. .	27, 30
Visits paid to houses where Infectious Disease had occurred .. .. .	27
Disinfection .. .. .	27
Bacteriological examinations .. .. .	27
Incidence of diphtheria .. .. .	27, 28
'The "Carrier" .. .. .	28, 29
Incidence of measles .. .. .	29
<b>Section 7.—Tuberculosis.</b>	
Cases notified .. .. .	31
Report on Treatment, etc... .. .	31, 32
New Cases .. .. .	32
Mortality .. .. .	32
<b>Section 8.—Shops Acts, 1912-1936.</b>	
Visits to shops .. .. .	33
Offences reported .. .. .	33
Improvements affected .. .. .	33

**Section 9.—Factories Act, 1937.**

Visits to factories .. .. .	34
Home Workers .. .. .	34
Defects found in factories, etc. .. .. .	35

**Section 10.—Housing and Environmental Hygiene.**

New Houses .. .. .	36
Inspection of the District .. .. .	36
Notices, etc., served .. .. .	36
Inspection of dwelling houses .. .. .	36, 37
Action under Statutory Powers .. .. .	37, 38
Overcrowding .. .. .	38
Legal Proceedings and results .. .. .	38
Houses let in Lodgings .. .. .	39
Offensive Trades .. .. .	39
House Refuse .. .. .	39
Streams and Watercourses .. .. .	39
Smoke Abatement .. .. .	40
Cinemas .. .. .	40
Eradication of Bed Bugs .. .. .	40
Tents and Vans .. .. .	40
Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919 .. .. .	40, 41
Public Elementary Schools .. .. .	41
Summary of Work of Department .. .. .	41
Details of Sanitary Improvements effected during the year .. .. .	41, 42











